

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended):      A tool, comprising:

    a holder, having:

        a receiving area for accepting a fastener with a head having at least one point in an insertion

direction; and

        a first notch transverse to said insertion direction, said notch in a sidewall of said holder and in communication with said receiving area; and

~~a retainer permanently secured to said holder, said retainer~~ extending through said first notch and into said receiving area;

        wherein said retainer deflects away from said receiving area during insertion of said fastener and provides a bias force to said ~~fastener~~ at least one point to retain the fastener against said holder.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented):      The tool of claim 1, wherein said holder has a second notch, transverse to said insertion direction and parallel with said first notch, and in a sidewall of said holder through which said retainer extends, said second notch not being in communication with said receiving area.

Claim 3 (Original):      The tool of claim 2, wherein said second notch is opposite said first notch.

Claim 4 (Original): The tool of claim 1, wherein said retainer comprises a split ring.

Claim 5 (Original): The tool of claim 1, wherein said retainer is a spring.

Claim 6 (Original): The tool of claim 1, wherein said receiving area has a depth and said first notch resides approximately at a midpoint of said depth.

Claim 7 (Original): The tool of claim 1, wherein said holder has an end that accepts said fastener and said retainer does not reside at said end.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): A socket assembly, comprising

a socket, having:

a receiving area for accepting a fastener having a head with at least one point in an insertion direction;

and

a first notch in a sidewall transverse to said insertion direction, said first notch in communication with said receiving area; and

~~a retainer permanently secured to said holder, said retainer extending in said notch and through into said receiving area;~~

wherein said retainer deflects away from said receiving area during insertion of said fastener and provides a bias force to said fastener at least one point to retain said fastener against said holder.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): The socket assembly of claim 8, wherein said holder has a second notch, transverse to said insertion direction and parallel with said first notch, and in a sidewall of said holder through which said retainer extends, said second notch not being in communication with said receiving area.

Claim 10 (Original): The socket assembly of claim 9, wherein said second notch is opposite said first notch.

Claim 11 (Original): The socket assembly of claim 8, wherein said retainer comprises a split ring.

Claim 12 (Original): The socket assembly of claim 8, wherein said retainer is a spring.

Claim 13 (Original): The socket assembly of claim 8, wherein said receiving area has a depth and said notch resides approximately at a midpoint of said depth.

Claim 14 (Original): The socket assembly of claim 8, wherein said holder has an end that accepts said fastener and said retainer does not reside at said end.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): A retainer ~~permanently~~ secured to a holder for providing a bias force to a fastener with a head having at least one point, and preventing a fastener~~the fastener~~ from departing said holder, comprising:

an arcuate medial section; and

a pair of arms extending from said medial section, each of said arms having a bent tip and wherein an arm provides a bias force to the at least one point to retain the fastener against the holder;

wherein said medial section and said tips conform to the shape of said holder.

Claim 16 (Original) The retainer of claim 15, wherein said retainer is generally planar.

Claim 17 (Original): The retainer of claim 15, wherein said arms are generally linear.

Claim 18 (Original): The retainer of claim 15, wherein said retainer is a split ring.

Claim 19 (Original): The retainer of claim 15, wherein said retainer is a spring.

Claim 20 (Original): The retainer of claim 15, wherein said retainer comprises wire.

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): The retainer of claim 1, wherein the retainer is secured to the ~~fastener~~holder by welding.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The retainer of claim 1, wherein said retainer comprises a cross sectional profile that is rectangular.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): The retainer of claim 22, wherein said rectangular profile comprises a chamfered edge.

Claim 24 (Currently Amended): The retainer of claim 8, wherein the retainer is secured to the ~~fastener~~holder by welding.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented): The retainer of claim 8, wherein said retainer comprises a cross sectional profile that is rectangular.

Claim 26 (Previously Presented): The retainer of claim 25, wherein said rectangular profile comprises a chamfered edge.

Claim 27 (Currently Amended): The retainer of claim 15, wherein the retainer is secured to the ~~fastener~~holder by welding.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented): The retainer of claim 15, wherein said retainer comprises a cross sectional profile that is rectangular.

Appl. No 10/761,731  
Amdt. dated March 20, 2006  
Reply to office action of December 05, 2005

Claim 29 (Previously Presented): The retainer of claim 28, wherein said rectangular profile comprises a chamfered edge.